

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

VANDERHOEK et al.

Serial No.: 10/721,231

Group Art Unit: 1618

Filed: 11/6/2003

Examiner: VICKIE KIM

For: METHOD & COMPOSITION WITH CONJUGATED LINOLEIC ACID ESTERS

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION / AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated 25 September 2006. The Examiner is requested to enter the following amendments and to consider arguments in favor of advancing prosecution to allowance. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121 a Claim Listing is included and the status of each claim is indicated according to the seven permissible status identifiers, i.e. (Original), (Currently amended), (Cancelled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn). Amended claims use brackets for additions and strike-through for deletions. A clean set of claims is also included per Sec. 1.121(c)(3).

Claim Listing:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of stimulating prostacyclin formation in cells, which method comprises contacting said cells with at least one conjugated linoleic acid under conditions wherein the conjugated linoleic acid becomes esterified inside the cells to form a lipid containing said at least one conjugated linoleic acid.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one conjugated linoleic acid is selected from the group consisting of 10,12-octadecadienoic acid and 9,11-octadecadienoic acid and mixtures thereof.